

News Release

New Jersey Meadowlands Commission



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NJMC Presents Laptop Computers to Local Fire Chiefs

LYNDHURST, N.J. – The New Jersey Meadowlands Commission today presented new laptop computers to the fire chiefs in Secaucus, Teterboro, Carlstadt and Moonachie, putting wireless technology and powerful mapping information directly at the scene of any emergency.

“With the devastation of Hurricane Katrina in the Gulf region, we know how important a quick reaction is during an emergency situation. It’s often a matter of life or death,” said NJMC Chair and New Jersey Department of Community Affairs Acting Commissioner Charles A. Richman. “The staff of our Meadowlands Environmental Research Institute dedicate themselves to designing and perfecting our Geographic Information System, which now will be instantly available at the scene of an emergency through these new computers.”

The GIS system creates maps, databases and other information useful to municipal workers, including those who respond in emergency situations. These portable computers will allow fire and police departments to access a large database of maps and emergency management information from fire trucks and patrol cars.

The computers were purchased through funding from the NJMC’s Municipal Assistance Program. Earlier this year, the NJMC approved \$25,000 to purchase one computer for each Meadowlands municipality. The NJMC also allocated about \$25,000 for each community to receive the necessary hardware and training to come online with GIS. So far, Secaucus, Teterboro, Carlstadt and Moonachie are already online with the program. East Rutherford, Rutherford, Ridgefield, Little Ferry, and North Arlington are slated to be online with GIS by the end of the year.

“The safety of our residents in the Meadowlands is paramount,” said NJMC Executive Director Robert Ceberio. “Through this program, we are ensuring the people in our District can get the help they will need in a time of crisis because the emergency responders will have the tools they need to get the job done.”

Through MAP, the NJMC has helped Meadowlands District towns purchase equipment, fund studies and make renovations that those communities would otherwise have had a difficult time funding. To date, the NJMC has given more than \$12.4 million in MAP funds to the 14 Meadowlands District towns.

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